

2 **Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection**  
3 **Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

4 NDOT Project No.: 73390/73391

5 NDOT Highway Agreement No.: P461-07-063

6  
7 Submitted Pursuant to 42 USC 4332(2)(c) and 49 USC 303 by the U.S. Department of Transportation,  
8 Federal Highway Administration, Nevada Department of Transportation, Regional Transportation  
9 Commission and these cooperating agencies:

- 10 • Bureau of Indian Affairs
- 11 • Bureau of Land Management
- 12 • Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

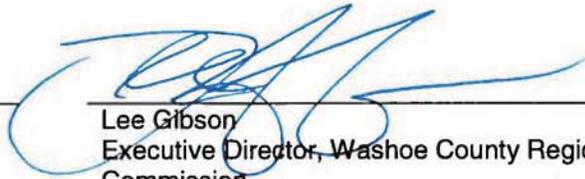
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42 Abstract

43 The Federal Highway Administration, in cooperation with the Nevada Department of Transportation and the Regional  
44 Transportation Commission of Washoe County, prepared this Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) to  
45 identify and evaluate transportation improvements along the Pyramid Highway (State Highway 445) corridor in the  
46 area of Northeast Truckee Meadows. Improvements considered in this Draft EIS address the regional movement of  
47 people and goods; relieve congestion on Pyramid Highway; and provide improved east-west community connectivity  
48 between Pyramid Highway, United States Highway 395, and Vista Boulevard. This Draft EIS provides a detailed  
49 evaluation of proposed improvements, including an examination of the purpose and need for the proposed action,  
50 alternatives under consideration, the affected environment, environmental consequences, impacts to Section 4(f)  
51 properties, and mitigation measures. Five alternatives, including the No-Action Alternative, are considered for  
52 implementation in the project area.

53 Comments on this Draft EIS are due by November 12, 2013, or 60 days after the Notice of Availability  
54 is published in the *Federal Register*, whichever is later, and should be sent to Steve Cooke, Nevada Department of  
55 Transportation, 1263 South Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89712.





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# DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Prepared by:

**Regional Transportation Commission  
Nevada Department of Transportation  
and  
Federal Highway Administration**

August 2013



## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AADT	Average Annual Daily Traffic
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials
ACM	Asbestos-Containing Materials
ADT	Average Daily Traffic
APE	Area of Potential Effect
BIA	U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	U.S. Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practice
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
BTU	British thermal unit
BWQP	Bureau of Water Quality Planning
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAB	Citizens Advisory Board
CCCRMP	Carson City Consolidated Resource Management Plan
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMP	Pyramid Highway Corridor Management Plan
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon Dioxide
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWS	Carson wandering skipper
dBA	A weighted Decibels
DCA	Development Constraints Areas
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DOT	Department of Transportation
DRI	Desert Research Institute
EA	Environmental Assessment
EDR	Environmental Data Resources
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJ	Environmental Justice
EO	Executive Order
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment
FAC	Facultative
FACU	Facultative Upland
FACW	Facultative Wetland
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FFPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration

## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

FIRMs	Flood Insurance Rate Maps
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GAP	Gap Analysis Project
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GID	General Improvement District
GIS	Geographic Information System
HCM	Highway Capacity Manual
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
HRIF	Historic Resource Inventory Form
HRPS	Historic Reno Preservation Society
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
IAC	Interagency Coordination
ICF	Interim Consensus Forecast
IMACS	Intermountain Archaeological Computer System
LBP	Lead-Based Paint
Leq	The energy equivalent of steady-state sound level, over a period of time usually an hour
LOS	Level of Service
LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MHC	Mobile Home Community
MHI	Median Household Income
MLRA	Major Land Resource Area
MOVES	Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator
Mpg	Miles Per Gallon
mph	Miles Per Hour
MS4	Municipal separate storm sewer systems
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
MSAT	Mobile Source Air Toxics
MU/DRC	Mixed-Use/Dandini Regional Center Overlay District
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAC	Nevada Administrative Code
NAC	Noise Abatement Criteria
NCHRP	National Cooperative Highway Research Program
NDEP	Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
NDEP	Nevada Department of Environmental Protection
NDOT	Nevada Department of Transportation
NDOW	Nevada Department of Wildlife
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration



## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

NI	No Indicator Status
NNHP	Nevada Natural Heritage Program
NO <sub>2</sub>	Nitrogen Dioxide
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	National Resource Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OBL	Obligate Wetland
PA	Programmatic Agreement
Pb	Lead
PM <sub>10</sub>	Particulate matter less than ten microns in diameter
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter
POAQC	projects of air quality concern
ppm	Parts Per Million
R&PP	Recreation and Public Purposes
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REC	Recognized Environmental Conditions
RMHQ	Requirements to maintain existing higher quality
RMP	Resource Management Plan
ROD	Record of Decision
RPC	Regional Planning Commission
RPGB	Regional Planning Governing Board
RSIC	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
RTC	Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act-A Legacy for Users
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SO <sub>2</sub>	Sulfur Dioxide
SOI	Sphere of influence
SPL	Sound Pressure Levels
SSURGO	Soil Survey Geographic Database
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
SWG	Stakeholder Working Group
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWReGAP	Southwest Regional Gap Analysis Project
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TART	Tahoe Area Regional Transit
TAZ	Traffic Analysis Zone

## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

TMCC	Truckee Meadows Community College
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TMRPA	Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency
TMWA	Truckee Meadows Water Authority
TMWRF	Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility
TNM	Traffic Noise Model
UPL	Obligate Upland
URA	Uniform Relocation Act
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geologic Survey
USTs	Underground Storage Tanks
VHD	Vehicle hours of delay
VHT	Vehicle Hours Traveled
VMS	Variable Message Signs
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
vph	Vehicles Per Hour
VRM	Visual Resource Management
WCAQMD	Washoe County Health District—Air Quality Management Division
WCRM	Western Cultural Resource Management
WSA	Wilderness Study Area

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## APPENDICES

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- 16 **Appendix C:** Plan Sheets
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(Note: All appendices are included on the computer disc attached to the back cover of this document due to their large file size.)

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## 2 LIST OF TECHNICAL REPORTS AND MEMORANDA

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3 Following is a list of technical reports and memoranda prepared as part of this EIS. These reports are  
4 included on the computer disc attached to the back cover of this report:

5

6 *Air Quality Technical Report*, June 2012.

7 *Alternatives Development and Screening*, June 2012.

8 *Architectural Inventory: Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Project* (historic architecture), January  
9 2012; Revised December 2012 (Note: Redacted version to protect sensitive resources)

10 *File and Literature Search and Preliminary Field Survey: Archaeological Inventory of the Pyramid*  
11 *Highway/US 395 Connection Projects, Sparks, Washoe County, Nevada*. March 2012; Revised  
12 May 2012.

13 *Pyramid Highway & US 395 Connector Project Conceptual Drainage Report*, September 2011.

14 *Social Considerations, Right-of-Way/Relocation Impacts, and Environmental Justice Technical*  
15 *Report*, June 2012.

16 *Summary of Environmental Database Search Results Technical Memorandum* (hazardous  
17 materials), February 2012; Revised June 2012.

18 *Traffic Noise Technical Report*, June 2012.

19 *Traffic Report*, December 2011.

20 *Visual Technical Memorandum*, June 2012.